

JSC celebrates Asian/Pacific month

May has been designated as Asian/Pacific Islander American Heritage Month to honor the heritage of a very diverse group of people. According to the Census Bureau, a partial list of countries included in the Asian/Pacific Islander classification is China, Japan, India, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Pakistan, Laos, Thailand, Tibet, Malaysia, Hawaii and the Philippines.

As of March 31, JSC employed 3,180 civil servants which included 134 Asian/Pacific Islander Americans. Of the 134 Asian/Pacific Islander Americans employees, 124 are classified as working in science and engineering, nine are in administrative positions, and one is classified as clerical. "JSC's workforce is enriched by its' diversity," said Estella Hernandez-Gillette, director of Equal Opportunity Programs. "We

will be celebrating Asian/Pacific Islander American Heritage Month on Wednesday, May 28, in the Bldg. 3 cafeteria from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. with a dance performance by Inder Trividi. The goal of having lunch time cultural events, is to give employees an opportunity to learn about the different cultures represented here at JSC." For additional information call the Equal Opportunity Program Office at x30600.

Test subjects needed in JSC chamber

The Human Test Subject Facility at JSC is currently recruiting volunteers to participate in a hypobaric chamber test simulating extravehicular activities. Test subjects will perform upper body exercises while sitting in a chair at altitude. "We are looking for volunteers who are in good health and can pass the required physical exam," said Noel Skinner, lead for the

Human Test Subject Facility. "Healthy individuals between the ages of 21-50 years old who are height/and weight proportionate, are not taking any medications, have no major fractures, and no major health problems are needed. Test subjects also will be given a chest x-ray, pulmonary function and stress tests and physiological training." Skinner said that prior to participation, a volunteer will receive a brief-

ing so he or she fully understands what the test involves. The volunteer also signs the required consent forms. The average time involved, to prepare for and complete the chamber test, is 40 hours per volunteer and volunteers may be compensated for their time. Restrictions apply to civil service and contractor personnel. To volunteer or for more information call Linda or Rori at x37284.

Astronaut selection process begins

By Eileen Hawley
NASA is accepting applications for mission specialist and pilot astronauts for the current selection cycle. Interested individuals may apply until the cut-off date of July 1, 1997. Applications received after the deadline will be eligible for consideration in the next selection cycle. Successful pilot applicants typically have extensive piloting experience in high performance jet aircraft and flight experience. Successful applicants for the mission specialist positions typically

have significant backgrounds in engineering or the sciences (materials science, earth science, medical science, and space science). After a six-month process including screening applications and conducting interviews and medical evaluations, selections will be announced in early 1998 with the new astronaut candidates reporting to JSC in the summer of 1998. "We are looking for individuals who not only are outstanding in their chosen field of work, but also possess the ability to get along with others and work in a diverse, multi-cultural environment," said Dave

Leestma, director of Flight Crew Operations. "We are in a very challenging and dynamic time in human space exploration and the people we choose will be an integral part of this nation's reach for the stars." NASA accepts applications for mission specialist and pilot astronaut positions on a continuing basis. An application package may be obtained by calling the Astronaut Selection Office at x35907, or writing to: NASA-Johnson Space Center Astronaut Selection Office Mail Code AHX Houston, TX 77058-3696

Gilruth Center spring leagues draw to close in football, volleyball

Several leagues that play at the Gilruth Center completed the spring season recently crowning champions in flag football and volleyball. Four men's flag football teams made the playoffs from a field of 11 teams—The Greasers, Urban Guerrillas, Toad Lickers and Hangers. The first round matched the Greasers against the Hangers and the Urban Guerrillas against the Toad Lickers. The Greasers defeated the Hangers in the first game 21 to 20 which advanced them into the championship game.

In the second game, the Urban Guerrillas defeated the Toad Lickers, 19 to 7, advancing them to the finals. The Hangers and Toad Lickers played for third place. The Toad Lickers defeated the Hangers 16 to 6. In the championship, the Urban Guerrillas defeated the Greasers 27 to 18. Managers for the teams are Ken Ruta, Urban Guerrillas; Chris Madden, Greasers; Jeff Boxell, Toad Lickers and Mervin Overton, Hangers. In the mixed flag football league, four teams made the playoffs from a

field of six teams—Blue Blaze, Flaggots, Four Plays and Don't Panic. The first round matched Blue Blaze against Don't Panic and the Flaggots against Four Plays. Blue Blaze defeated Don't Panic in the first game 13 to 0 which advanced them into the championship game. In the second game the Flaggots defeated Four Plays 13 to 12 advancing them to the championship game. In the championship game the Flaggots defeated Blue Blaze 13 to 12. Managers for the teams are Shannan Staats,

Flaggots; Eric Schultz, Blue Blaze; Jeff Hoblit, Don't Panic; and Mike Scheib, Four Plays. The next flag football season will begin in September. In the Mixed B volleyball league, four teams made the playoffs from a field of six teams—We Be Diggin, the Hitmen, Never Too Old, and Dynamic Dinkers. In the championship match. We Be Diggin defeated The Hitmen 2 games to 1. In the mixed C league, four teams made the playoffs from a field of nine teams—Commit To Spike, 3-2-

1 Fun, But We Can Bowl and HEI. In the championship, Commit To Spike defeated 3-2-1 Fun 2 games to 0. In the women's volleyball league, four teams made the playoffs from a field of nine teams—Net Relief, Sierra, Otra Vez and Speed Bumps. In the championship match. Net Relief defeated Sierra 2 games to 0. In the men's volleyball league, the Transient Spike team was the season champion with a record of 23 wins and 7 loses. There were five teams in the league. The new volleyball season begins this month.

Manager's Message

By Estella Hernandez Gillette
Director, Equal Opportunity Programs



Gillette

The JSC Equal Opportunity Programs Office has existed since the early 1970s. For many years, the Equal Opportunity Programs Office focused primarily on assuring that the center achieved its affirmative action goals. We concentrated on providing visibility for women and minorities. Another Equal Opportunity Programs Office objective has been to resolve issues of discrimination. We have spent many hours working closely with the employees, management, Human Resources and the American Federation of Government Employees. The effort has resulted in a curtailed number of formal complaints for JSC. It behooves everyone to reach a resolution as quickly as possible. More importantly, good management practices and communication between management and the employee will keep the numbers down! Since its inception, the Equal Opportunity Programs Office has focused on community and education outreach. Equal Opportunity Program Office staff and other JSC volunteers have spent many hours participating in career days, mentoring programs, speaking engagements and panel discussions, all in an effort to assure that tomorrow's workforce will include minorities and women, particularly in those technical areas. What we do is not for social reasons alone—it is for a practical reason that if we do not proactively participate in promoting the student's interest in science and engineering, how will we assure

a workforce from which to select when all statistics point to a growing number of women and minorities in the workforce of tomorrow? And those groups have traditionally not made up a large portion of America's technical workforce-yet! It is not only for the good of the agency that we take an active role, but also good for the future of America's technology base. I want to conclude my message by describing the Equal Opportunity Programs Office of today. Our philosophy is one of total inclusion, not only for minorities and women, but also for the remaining workforce. We still focus on the regulatory objectives, but we also focus on assuring that everyone has an opportunity. Opportunities are created by the right practice. No one wants a "free ride," regardless of the person's background. Our focus today is for an appreciation of what each one of us brings to the JSC table. However, we are here first as JSC employees to meet the goals and objectives of the agency and the center, then as the person that we are. The more we do together, the more we begin to better work together. Our philosophy is that the staff will participate in anything that impacts JSC. This is how we will better get to know our customers—the JSC employees and our community!

People on the Move

Human Resources reports the following personnel changes as of April 14:

New Hires

Brenda Moulton was hired as an aerospace technician in Mission Operations.

Temporaries

Kelly Cannon and Shirley McCue joined the Space Shuttle Program.

Transfers

Donna Winchell transferred from Kennedy Space Center to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Timothy Bond transferred from Kennedy Space Center to the International Space Station Program.

Reassignments

Judy Flanagan moved from the Space Shuttle Program to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Pearlina Collector and Roberto Galvez moved from Mission Operations to the International Space Station Program.

Promotions

Mable Cobbs was promoted to secretary in Mission Operations. Dennis Kross was promoted to vehicle manager in the International Space Station Program Office. Brenda Whitley was promoted to program analyst in the International Space Station Program Office.

Resignations

Janet Montoya resigned from the International Space Station Program.

Dates & Data

May 23

Blood pressure screening: The JSC clinic will offer blood pressure screenings May 23 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Bldg. 225; 10-11 a.m. at Bldg. 372 at Ellington Field and from 1-2 p.m. at Bldg. 17. For more information call the clinic at x34111. **Electrical fair:** JSC will host an Electrical Safety Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Bldg. 30. For details call Rindy Carmichael at x45078. **Mission viewing:** The Mission Control viewing room will be open from 6-8 p.m. May 23. For the latest details on the schedule call x36765.

May 24

Mission viewing: The Mission Control viewing room will be open from 5-8 p.m. May 24.

May 28

Space medicine grand rounds: Dr. Edward Good will present "Neurologic Aspects of Space Flight," at 8:30 a.m. May 28 at the Center for Advanced Space Studies, 3600 Bay Area Boulevard. For details call Kay Nute at 244-2019. **Crew briefing:** The STS-83 crew will discuss its mission at 9:30 a.m. May 28 in Teague Auditorium. For details call Helen Harris at 38413. **Spaceland Toastmasters meet:** The Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. May 28 at the House

of Prayer Lutheran Church. For more information call Jeannette Kirinich at x45752. **Spaceteam Toastmasters meet:** The Spaceteam Toastmasters will meet at 11:30 a.m. May 28 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For details call Pat Blackwell at 282-4302 or Ben Black at 282-4166. **Communicators meet:** The Clear Lake Communicators will meet at 11:30 a.m. May 28 at the Lockheed Martin Facility, 555 Forge River Road. For more information call Richard Lehman, at 538-1854. **Astronomy seminar:** The JSC Astronomy Seminar will be held at noon May 14 in Bldg. 31 Rm. 129. An open discussion meeting is planned. For more information call Al Jackson at x35037. **All hands meeting:** The JSC Strategic Management All Hands meeting will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. in Teague Auditorium. Featured speakers include Frank Culbertson, Randy Brinkley and a representative of the Space and Life Sciences Directorate. **AIAA meets:** The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics will meet at 5 p.m. May 28 at Lake-wood Yacht Club. Astronaut Scott Altman will discuss his role as a pilot in the movie "Top Gun." For details call Danita Thomas at x32348.

May 29

Radio club meets: The JSC Amateur Radio Club will meet at 7 p.m. May 29 at Piccadilly Cafeteria, 2465 Bay Area Blvd. For more information call Larry Dietrich at x39198.

June 3

Blood drive: JSC will host a blood drive from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. June 3 and from 8 a.m.-noon June 4 in Teague Auditorium. For details call Dan Mangieri at x33003. **ASQC meets:** The Bay Area Section of the American Society for Quality Control will meet at 6 p.m. June 3 at Ramada King's Inn on NASA Road 1. Mark Madera, project engineer for the Baytown Bridge Project will discuss "The New Baytown Bridge." Dinner costs \$9 and reservations not required. For details call Ray Swindle at 335-6948.

June 4

Free concert: The Houston Symphony will perform "It's A Sounds Like Fun Circus," concert at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 4 in Teague Auditorium. The free concert is open to the public and individuals are encouraged to come 30 minutes early so children can visit the "Instrument Petting Zoo," see the "Live Instrument" and visit with Ronald McDonald. For details call 587-7395.